

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04
NSAE-00 SIL-01 /032 W
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UNCLAS OTTAWA 06137

E.O. 11652:N/A
TAGS: ELAB, CA
SUBJECT: LABOR FORCE DATA

1. STATISTICS CANADA MID-JUNE ESTIMATES SHOW SEASONALLY ADJUSTED EMPLOYMENT LEVEL AT 9,731,000, DOWN 18,000 FROM MAY. LARGEST DECLINES REGISTERED AMONG 15 TO 24-YEAR-OLDS (-23,000) WITH MODERATE INCREASE OF 5,000 FOR THOSE OVER 25 YEARS OF AGE. UNEMPLOYMENT ROSE BY 6,000 FROM MAY REACHING 847,000 ON SEASONALLY ADJUSTED BASIS, REFLECTING A JOBLESS RATE INCREASE OF 0.1 PERCENT TO 8.0 PERCENT. THE RATE INCREASE AFFECTED ALL AGE AND SEX GROUPS EXCEPT FOR 15 TO 24-YEAR-OLD MEN WHERE IT DECLINED 0.1 PERCENT TO 14.4 PERCENT. PROVINCIALLY, UNEMPLOYED DECLINED SLIGHTLY IN P.E.I. TO 9.7 PERCENT; SASKATCHEWAN 4.8 PERCENT; QUEBEC 9.7 PERCENT; ALBERTA 4.1 PERCENT; AND ONTARIO 7.2 PERCENT. MODERATE INCREASES WERE REGISTERED IN NEWFOUNDLAND TO 15.7 PERCENT; IN NEW BRUNSWICK TO 12.8 PERCENT; IN NOVA SCOTIA TO 11.1 PERCENT AND TO 8.3 PERCENT IN BRITISH COLUMBIA. THE MANITOBA RATE REMAINED UNCHANGED AT 6.1 PERCENT.

2. ON UNADJUSTED BASIS, THE EMPLOYMENT LEVEL REACHED 10,044,000 (FIRST TIME IT SURPASSED TEN MILLION MARK)
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COMPARED TO 9,822,000 IN MAY AND 9,855,000 IN JUNE 1976. THE NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED WAS 814,000 (702,000 IN JUNE 1976) AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE WAS 7.5 PERCENT (6.6 PERCENT IN JUNE 1976).

3. FOR STUDENTS WHO PLAN TO RETURN TO SCHOOL IN AUTUMN, THE EMPLOYMENT LEVEL ROSE FROM 553,000 IN MAY TO 673,000.

HOWEVER, A RISE OF 20,000 IN UNEMPLOYMENT REFLECTED A RATE INCREASE FROM 13.8 PERCENT TO 14 PERCENT. FOR THOSE 15 TO 24-YEAR-OLDS WHO PLAN TO ENTER THE LABOR MARKET PERMANENTLY THE JUNE ESTIMATES WERE AS FOLLOWS: EMPLOYMENT 218,000 (169,000 IN MAY); UNEMPLOYMENT 46,000 (40,000 IN MAY) AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE 17.3 (19.4 IN MAY).

4. COMMENT: THESE LATEST FIGURES WILL GIVE LITTLE COMFORT TO GOC WHICH IS FACED WITH STRONG CRITICISM FROM OPPOSITION PARTIES IN THE CURRENT DEBATE ON AMENDMENTS TO THE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACT WHICH WOULD LENGTHEN THE QUALIFICATION PERIOD FOR UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS FROM CURRENT EIGHT WEEKS TO A 10 TO 14 WEEK RANGE, DEPENDING ON REGIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT RATES. DUEMLING

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